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The WOOL SITUATION

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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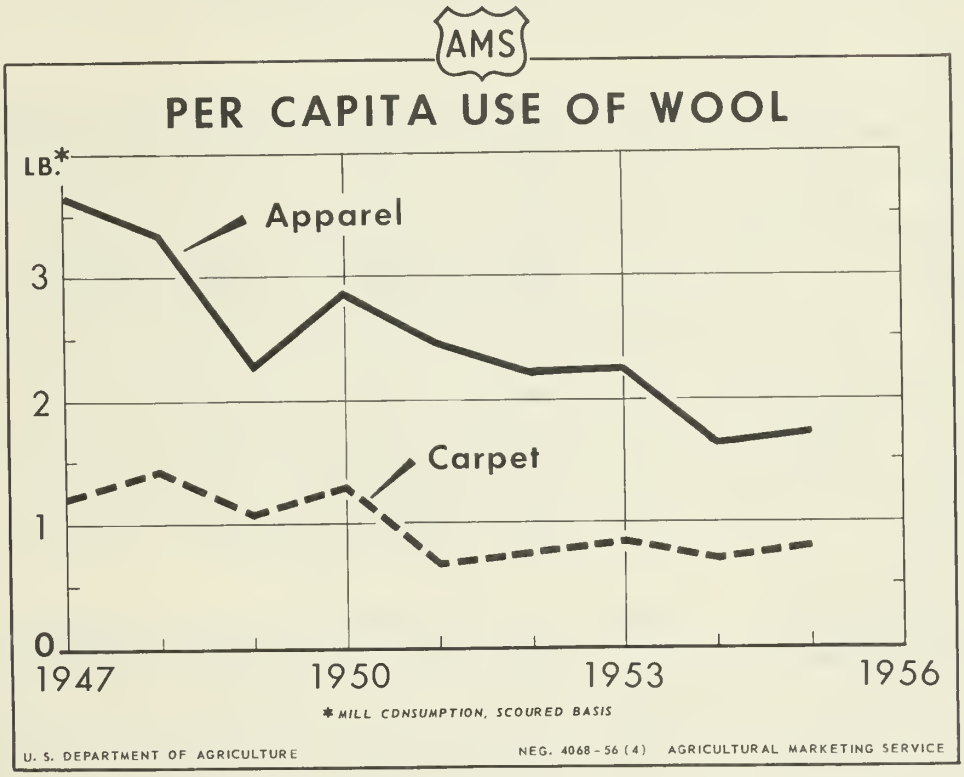


The trend of per capita mill use of both apparel and carpet wool has been downward over the postwar years, a period of generally rising economic activity and consumer purchasing power. Average per capita use of apparel wool during the last three years was 14 percent below 1935-39 and 39 percent below 1947-49. Although use of carpet wool was about 6 percent above prewar, it was 36 percent below 1947-49.

The downward trend in mill consumption largely reflects the increase in the use of materials other than wool in the manufacture of items for which wool traditionally had been considered the most desirable fiber, and increased imports of manufactures of wool. Changes in clothing habits and in consumer spending patterns also have been important factors.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

AGRICULTURE - WASHINGTON

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	1954	1955				1956			Last data available as percent of a year earlier
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	
Wool										
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	Cents per pound	50.5	50.2	49.7	49.0	38.7	39.1	40.2	39.9	81
Parity price		58.3	---	59.4	59.6	58.6	60.1	59.9	60.3	101
Farm as percent of parity		87	---	84	82	66	65	67	66	
Boston, clean basis 1/										
Domestic										
Graded territory										
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	156.0	155.0	155.6	153.5	129.8	131.6	132.1	129.8	85
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	143.1	145.0	145.0	143.0	117.5	121.2	122.5	122.5	86
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	126.4	130.0	129.4	126.5	108.1	111.1	112.5	111.4	88
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	107.5	112.9	117.5	116.5	102.5	105.1	107.2	106.6	92
Low 1/4 blood	do.	96.5	99.4	105.0	104.5	92.5	96.2	97.5	96.2	92
Common and braid	do.	87.5	90.0	97.5	97.5	91.2	92.5	92.5	92.5	95
Graded fleece										
Delaine	do.	167.5	167.5	167.5	159.0	127.5	131.2	138.0	136.6	86
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	132.5	133.1	140.0	138.0	111.5	116.8	117.5	117.5	85
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	113.5	114.6	119.1	113.8	102.9	106.4	107.8	104.6	92
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	103.6	113.8	110.6	107.6	98.4	101.5	102.7	98.0	91
Low 1/4 blood	do.	93.5	99.4	105.0	103.3	89.2	91.9	92.5	92.5	90
Common and braid	do.	87.5	90.0	97.5	97.5	86.6	87.5	87.5	87.5	90
Original bag Texas										
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	162.5	162.5	162.5	156.5	132.5	134.8	142.5	141.2	90
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	147.5	147.5	147.5	143.5	117.5	118.8	122.5	121.2	84
Fine fall (3/4" and over)	do.	137.5	137.5	137.5	133.5	102.5	105.0	112.5	112.5	84
Imported, excluding duty										
Australian										
64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp	do.	167.5	157.5	152.5	152.5	127.5	135.0	137.5	137.5	90
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	162.5	152.5	147.5	147.5	122.5	130.0	132.5	132.5	90
64's combing	do.	157.5	147.5	142.5	142.5	117.5	125.0	127.5	127.5	89
58's, 60's combing	do.	137.5	127.5	127.5	127.5	112.5	120.0	122.5	122.5	96
Montevideo super										
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	134.1	127.8	121.8	120.5	102.0	102.5	102.5	102.5	85
1's (56's)	do.	123.9	118.2	113.1	112.0	98.0	98.5	98.5	98.5	88
2's (50's)	do.	105.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	94.5	95.5	95.5	95.5	91
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	94.5	94.5	94.5	94.5	91.0	91.0	91.0	91.0	96
4's (44's)	do.	92.9	94.5	94.5	94.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	94
5's (40's)	do.	92.9	94.5	94.5	94.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	94
Other textile fibers										
Cotton, middling 15/16" 2/	do.	33.9	34.0	34.1	33.5	33.7	34.1	35.2	35.5	106
Man-made synthetic staple fiber										
Viscose, 1-1/2 denier 3/	do.	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	4/	94
Acetate, 5 denier 3/	do.	34.0	34.0	34.0	37.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	4/	94
Nylon, 3 denier 5/	do.	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	83
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/	do.	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	135.0	135.0	135.0	135.0	84
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/	do.	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	83
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 5/	do.	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	112.0	112.0	112.0	112.0	80
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 5/	do.	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	82
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 5/	do.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100

1/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.
2/ From Cotton Price Statistics.
3/ From Textile Organon.
4/ Not available.
5/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

THE WOOL SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 11, 1956

SUMMARY

The 1956 domestic wool marketing season opened this month and prices of wool, both here and abroad, in early April were somewhat lower than a year earlier. In general, prices for domestic descriptions were only slightly above the 1955 seasonal low levels reached toward the end of last year.

The average of prices received by growers for shorn wool sold during April 1955-January 1956, the first 10 months of the 1955 marketing season, has been tentatively estimated at 44.0 cents per pound, grease basis. The mid-month averages during this period ranged from 47.6 cents for April to 38.7 cents for December. Preliminary mid-month averages for the final two months of the season were 40.2 and 39.9 cents. As announced in the fall of 1954, the rate of Government payment under the incentive program will be based on the average of prices received by producers during the entire season. This average has not yet been calculated. However, the above preliminary information suggests a Government payment to the individual producer on shorn wool marketings under the 1955 program somewhere in the neighborhood of 40 percent of the value of his shorn wool sales. It also suggests for pulled wool a payment per hundred pounds of live weight of eligible marketings of sheep and lambs somewhere in the neighborhood of 70 cents.

Domestic production of shorn wool in 1955 is now estimated at 233.4 million pounds, 1 percent less than in 1954. Output of pulled wool is estimated at 41.6 million pounds, 4 percent less than in 1954. The clean equivalent of the total probably was in the neighborhood of 134 million pounds, about 2 percent less than the year before. With about the same number of stock sheep and lambs on farms and ranches at the beginning of this year as last year, shorn wool production this year is not likely to be much different from 1955.

The rate of United States mill use of apparel wool during the first 2 months of this year was 15 percent above that of January-February 1955 while use of carpet wool was up 30 percent. Consumption of wool last year was about 10 percent above 1954, with use of apparel wool up 7 percent and of carpet wool up 16 percent. World consumption last year is estimated to have been about 3 percent above that of 1954.

United States imports of both free and dutiable wools for consumption during January were above those of early 1955. Imports of dutiable wools last year were above 1954 but otherwise the smallest since before World War II. Imports of duty-free wools last year were substantially above 1954 and were the largest since 1950.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	1954	1955				1956		Last data available as percent of a year earlier
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb. 1/	
Imports for consumption, clean content	Million pounds								
Dutiable 2/	do.	7.2	11.2	8.7	12.1	8.1	12.3		110
60's and finer	do.	4.3	7.3	4.8	6.7	4.6	7.2		99
56's - 60's	do.	.6	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.5	1.6		114
50's - 56's	do.	.5	.8	.6	1.3	.5	.9		112
44's - 50's	do.	.3	.3	.4	.5	.3	.4		133
40's - 44's	do.	.8	.3	.5	.6	.2	.4		133
Not finer than 40's	do.	.5	.8	1.1	1.2	.8	1.5		188
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2		100
Duty-free	do.	6.6	7.6	8.6	13.9	8.8	16.9		222
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	4.2	4.5	4.7	8.5	4.6	7.5		167
Not finer than 40's	do.	2.4	3.1	3.9	5.4	4.2	9.4		303
Accumulated since January 1									
Dutiable 2/	do.	104.0	11.2	19.9	31.9	112.7	12.3		110
60's and finer	do.	56.9	7.3	12.2	18.9	65.3	7.2		99
56's - 60's	do.	14.5	1.4	2.5	4.1	16.9	1.6		114
50's - 56's	do.	11.5	.8	1.5	2.8	9.6	.9		112
44's - 50's	do.	4.6	.3	.7	1.1	3.6	.4		133
40's - 44's	do.	5.5	.3	.8	1.4	4.4	.4		133
Not finer than 40's	do.	9.1	.8	1.8	3.0	10.1	1.5		188
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	1.7	.2	.3	.5	2.3	.2		100
Duty-free	do.	102.1	7.6	16.2	30.1	135.9	16.9		222
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	55.6	4.5	4.2	17.7	74.7	7.5		167
Not finer than 40's	do.	46.5	3.1	7.0	12.4	61.2	9.4		303
Imports for consumption, actual weight									
Dutiable	do.	11.1	17.2	13.4	18.3	12.1	18.6		108
Duty-free	do.	9.1	10.6	11.9	19.1	12.3	24.0		226
Mill consumption, scoured basis 3/									
Per week, during month 4/									
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	1,000 pounds	4,520	5,333	5,699	5,424	5,201	6,239	6,420	113
60's and finer	do.	2,486	2,972	3,006	2,923	2,880	3,420	3,494	116
50's up to 60's	do.	1,520	1,788	2,028	1,873	1,787	2,153	2,198	108
48's and coarser	do.	514	573	665	628	534	666	728	109
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	2,214	2,546	2,539	2,535	2,773	3,213	3,419	135
Accumulated since January 1									
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	Million pounds	266.3	21.3	44.1	71.2	285.8	25.0	50.6	115
60's and finer	do.	139.5	11.9	23.9	38.5	152.9	13.7	27.7	116
50's up to 60's	do.	91.9	7.2	15.3	24.5	100.5	8.6	17.4	114
48's and coarser	do.	34.9	2.2	4.9	8.2	32.4	2.7	5.5	112
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	114.5	10.2	20.3	33.1	132.6	12.9	26.5	131
Woven wool fabric production 5/	Million linear yards								
Accumulated since January 1									
Apparel fabrics		256.4			69.6	295.5			115
Government orders	do.	2.4			1.1	6.4			267
Men's and boys' wear	do.	119.7			36.4	140.1			117
Women's and children's wear	do.	134.3			32.1	149.0			111
Non-apparel fabrics	do.	22.6			4.2	15.1			67
Blanketing	do.	13.3			2.8	10.6			80
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.	9.3			1.4	4.5			48
Total woven fabrics	do.	279.0			73.8	310.6			111

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Includes carbonized wool which is not reported by grade.
3/ On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of felts, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products.
4/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks per quarter.
5/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Through March the Commodity Credit Corporation sold under the competitive bid sales program about 18 percent of the 149.4 million pounds, actual weight, on hand when the program went into effect last November 1. The maximum monthly quota, $6\frac{1}{4}$ million pounds, has been sold each month except March when only about 1/3 of the quota was sold.

Copies of the first annual supplement to Wool Statistics and Related Data (Statistical Bulletin No. 142) are available on request from Marketing Information Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

SURVEY OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Prices Below Year Ago

The 1956 domestic wool marketing season opened with prices in domestic and foreign markets below a year earlier. The declines from a year earlier vary with the type or description and range from 5 to 20 percent, with most between 5 and 15 percent.

With world supplies larger and demand easier, prices in world markets began to decline with the opening of the 1954-55 British Dominion marketing season. With prospects for a further increase in world supplies, prices again dropped rather sharply with the opening of the current or 1955-56 marketing season. Changes since then have been relatively slight. A general slight advance from late 1955 into February of this year was followed by a slight easing during March (tables 1 and 2).

Shorn Wool Payments To Be Substantial

The average of prices received by all producers for shorn wool during the entire 1955 marketing season is not yet known. This average will be used to determine the rate of Government payments under the 1955 incentive program. However, such information as is available indicates that the 1955 average was substantially below the 53.2 cents per pound, grease basis, for the 1954 marketing season.

The mid-month averages of prices received declined from an average of 47.6 cents at mid-April 1955, the first month of the 1955 season, to 38.7 cents in December. During the last 3 months of the season they ranged between 39.1 cents and 40.2 cents. Late in February the Crop Reporting Board announced 44.0 cents as a preliminary estimate of the average of prices received for shorn wool sold during April 1955-January 1956, the first 10 months of the 1955 marketing season. It was estimated at that time that over 90 percent of

Table 1.- Price per pound of fleece wools at the London auctions, clean basis (Bradford yield), 1954-56

Week ended 1/	Good medium fleeces		Fine cross-bred fleeces		Crossbred fleeces	
	64's-70's	58's-60's	56's	50's	48's	46's
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1954						
January 22	183.9	146.5	105.4	87.9	83.2	82.0
January 29	183.9	142.9	105.4	89.0	83.2	83.2
February 26	175.9	144.2	109.0	92.6	86.8	84.4
March 5	173.5	140.7	110.2	92.6	89.1	86.8
April 2	179.5	146.7	116.2	99.7	96.2	93.9
April 9	179.6	146.7	116.2	98.6	95.1	92.7
May 14	182.1	152.7	119.8	102.2	97.5	95.1
May 21	182.1	152.7	119.8	103.4	98.7	96.3
July 9	173.8	152.6	119.8	101.0	96.3	93.9
July 16	173.8	152.6	119.8	102.1	97.4	95.1
September 10	164.9	140.3	---	98.2	91.2	90.0
September 17	172.7	144.7	---	100.4	94.5	92.2
November 26	155.7	122.0	---	87.2	83.7	81.3
December 10	156.9	119.7	104.6	90.6	86.0	83.7
1955						
January 14	150.9	119.5	104.4	89.4	84.7	83.6
January 21	155.5	120.7	106.8	91.7	87.0	84.7
February 18	155.3	121.7	110.1	93.9	89.3	88.1
February 25	155.6	124.3	110.3	95.2	91.8	90.6
March 25	153.6	124.5	108.2	94.3	90.8	89.6
April 1	149.0	124.5	108.2	94.3	90.8	89.6
May 13	149.2	124.7	110.7	95.6	90.9	89.7
May 20	148.8	124.4	110.4	96.5	91.8	90.7
July 15	141.5	116.0	---	92.8	88.1	87.0
July 22	133.4	113.6	---	91.6	87.0	85.8
September 9	127.6	109.1	98.6	83.5	81.2	78.9
September 22	130.0	109.1	---	84.7	82.4	80.1
October 28	134.0	111.9	97.9	88.6	85.1	82.7
November 4	134.3	112.1	---	89.9	86.4	84.1
December 2	135.4	112.1	---	91.1	88.7	87.6
December 9	135.4	113.2	---	92.2	89.9	88.7
1956						
January 20	135.7	111.2	94.8	90.1	87.8	87.8
January 27	136.9	111.1	92.4	87.7	85.4	85.4
March 2	138.0	107.6	---	84.2	81.9	80.7
March 15	138.0	105.2	92.4	83.0	80.7	80.7

1/ Opening and closing weeks for each series.

Compiled from Kreglinger and Fernau market reports. Prices converted from pence to cents at current rates of exchange.

Table 2.- Prices of domestic shorn wool at Boston, clean basis, for week ended April 6, 1956 with comparisons

Classification	Average 1947-49	1955 week ended Apr. 8	1956 week ended Feb. 10	1956 week ended Apr. 6	Percentage change week ended Apr. 6 from		
					Average 1947-49	Apr. 8 1955	Feb. 10 1956
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent	Percent
Graded							
Territory and Texas							
Fine, good French combing and staple	151.7	151.5	132.0	128.0	-15.6	-15.5	-3.0
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	137.1	140.0	122.5	120.0	-12.5	-14.3	-2.0
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	109.1	122.5	112.5	108.0	-1.0	-11.8	-4.0
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	100.0	112.5	107.5	104.0	+4.0	-7.6	-3.3
Low 1/4 blood	89.9	105.0	97.5	97.5	+8.5	-7.1	0
Common and braid	83.5	97.5	92.5	92.5	+10.8	-5.1	0
Fleece							
Fine, Delaine	154.5	155.0	138.0	132.5	-14.2	-14.5	-4.0
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	131.6	137.5	117.5	114.0	-13.4	-17.1	-3.0
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	103.2	112.5	107.5	100.0	-3.1	-11.1	-7.0
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	97.0	107.0	102.5	95.5	-1.6	-10.7	-6.8
Low 1/4 blood	78.4	102.5	92.5	92.5	+18.0	-9.8	0
Common and braid	73.4	97.5	87.5	87.5	+19.2	-10.3	0
Original bag							
Fine Texas							
Good French combing and staple	150.9	155.0	142.5	132.5	-12.2	-14.5	-7.0
Eight months (1 inch and over)	121.0	142.5	122.5	117.5	-2.9	-17.5	-4.1
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	110.8	132.5	112.5	112.5	+1.5	-15.1	0

Compiled from market reports of Agricultural Marketing Service.

the 1955 clip had been sold by the end of January. These preliminary estimates suggest that with the incentive level of 62 cents, Government payments on shorn wool are likely to average about 18 cents per pound. The payment to the individual producer will be equivalent to the price he received in the open market times the percentage needed to bring the average return of all producers up to the incentive level. Hence, these preliminary figures suggest a total shorn wool payment to the individual producer somewhere in the neighborhood of 40 percent of the value of his shorn wool sales.

U. S. Production Down A Little Last Year

Production of shorn and pulled wool last year totaled 275 million pounds, equivalent to about 134 million pounds of clean wool. The total consisted of 233.4 million pounds of shorn wool and 41.6 million pounds of pulled wool (table 3). Output of both shorn and pulled wool was a little smaller than in 1954.

The quantity of wool shorn was about 1 percent less than in 1954. The number of sheep and lambs shorn in 1955 totaled 27.3 million head, a decrease of 1 percent from the number shorn in 1954. The average weight per fleece, 8.54 pounds, was the highest of record and compared with 8.52 last year. With the number of stock sheep on farms and ranches at the beginning of this year about the same as a year earlier, shorn wool production this year is not likely to be greatly different from that of 1955.

The 41.6 million pounds of pulled wool produced in 1955 were 4 percent less than in 1954. Although commercial slaughter of sheep and lambs last year was about 2 percent greater than in 1954, wool was pulled from a smaller proportion of the available skins. The average weight of wool pulled per skin was 3.53 pounds compared with 3.48 in 1954.

Although some shorn wool is produced in all States, three-fifths of the total was accounted for by 8 States (Texas, Wyoming, California, Montana, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Idaho). Each produced over 10 million pounds last year. Texas alone accounted for almost one-fifth. The total for these 8 States last year was a little over 2 percent lower than in 1954 with only two, California and Montana, showing increases.

Value of Shorn Wool Sales Last Year Much Lower than in 1954

The value of sales for shorn wool produced in 1955 is estimated at 103 million dollars, 18 percent below the estimated value of the 1954 clip. This estimate is based on estimated production and the estimated average of prices received during April 1955-January 1956, the first 10 months of the season. It is subject to revision when the average of prices for the entire season is known.

Table 3.- Number of sheep and lambs shorn, weight per fleece, price per pound received by growers, value of sales, and wool production, United States, 1940-55

Year	Sheep and lambs shorn 1/	Weight per fleece	Shorn wool production	Price per pound 2/	Value of sales 3/	Pulled wool production	Total wool production: As reported	Total wool production: Approximate clean fiber equivalent 4/
	Thousands	Pounds	Thousand pounds	Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds	Million pounds
1940	46,313	8.03	372,014	28.4	105,539	62,000	434,014	210.2
1941	47,722	8.12	387,520	35.5	137,754	65,800	453,320	219.9
1942	49,287	7.88	388,297	40.1	155,728	66,700	454,997	220.9
1943	47,892	7.91	378,834	41.6	157,587	65,200	444,043	215.6
1944	43,165	7.84	338,318	42.3	143,224	73,500	411,818	204.0
1945	38,763	7.95	307,976	41.9	128,970	70,500	378,476	188.4
1946	34,647	8.11	280,908	42.3	118,805	61,300	342,208	169.6
1947	30,953	8.12	251,425	42.0	105,654	56,600	308,025	153.1
1948	28,649	8.09	231,770	49.2	114,055	46,600	278,370	136.9
1949	26,382	8.07	212,899	49.4	105,223	35,600	248,499	120.4
1950	26,380	8.22	216,944	62.1	134,623	32,400	249,344	119.8
1951	27,347	8.34	228,091	97.1	221,456	25,900	253,991	119.8
1952	28,051	8.32	233,309	54.1	126,327	33,600	266,909	127.9
1953	27,845	8.34	232,258	5/54.9	127,514	42,200	274,458	133.8
1954	27,692	8.52	235,807	5/53.2	125,538	43,500	279,307	136.4
1955 6/	27,327	8.54	233,370	7/44.0	102,591	41,600	274,970	133.9

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.

2/ Revised: Beginning with 1943 the average price is for the marketing season April through March. Prior to 1943 average prices relate to the calendar year.

3/ Computed using April-March average prices beginning with 1943 and calendar year averages prior to 1943.

4/ Production as reported converted on basis of 44 percent yield for shorn wool and 75 percent yield for pulled wool.

5/ Includes an allowance for wool under loan. 6/ Preliminary.

7/ Weighted average price for wool sold April 1955 through January 1956.

The decline in value last year reflected the slight drop in production and the sharp decline in prices. However, Government payments under the incentive program will be sufficiently large to bring total returns from shorn wool substantially above the 126 million dollars estimated as the value of the 1954 clip.

The value of sales, by States, ranged from 6 thousand dollars for Rhode Island to 19.9 million dollars for Texas. The 8 largest producing States accounted for 61 percent of the total value.

Mohair Production Up 16 Percent Last Year

Production of mohair in the 7 principal producing States in 1955 is estimated at 16.9 million pounds, grease basis (table 4). This was 2.3 million pounds or 16 percent more than was produced in 1954. The increase last year was the third in succession. With the substantial increase in 1955, production had recovered about half of the 45 percent decline from the record high of 1945 to the low in 1952.

The increase last year reflected an increase both in the number of goats clipped and in the average weight of hair per animal clipped. The number clipped last year totaled 2,983,000 head, an increase of 14 percent over 1954. The average weight of hair per goat and kid clipped was 5.7 pounds, one-tenth of a pound more than the previous year.

Production in Texas, which accounted for 95 percent of the goats clipped and 97 percent of the mohair produced, increased 17 percent. With about 9 percent more goats in Texas early this year than at the beginning of 1955, some further increase in mohair production appears likely.

Prices Received by Growers for Mohair Averaged Higher Last Year

Prices received by growers for mohair produced in 1955 averaged 82.2 cents per pound, grease basis. This average was 9.8 cents or 14 percent above that for the 1954 clip. The increase probably reflects stronger world demand. The national average support level for the 1955 clip was 70 cents. Therefore, payments are not necessary for mohair sold during the 1955 marketing season.

Value of Sales of Mohair Up Substantially Last Year

The increases in both production and prices of mohair last year over 1954 resulted in a substantial increase in the value of the clip. Value of sales from mohair clipped in 1955 amounted to $13.9 million, an increase of nearly one-third from 1954.

Table 4.- Number of goats clipped, average clip per goat, price per pound received by growers, value of sales, and mohair production, in the seven principal producing States, United States, 1940-55 1/

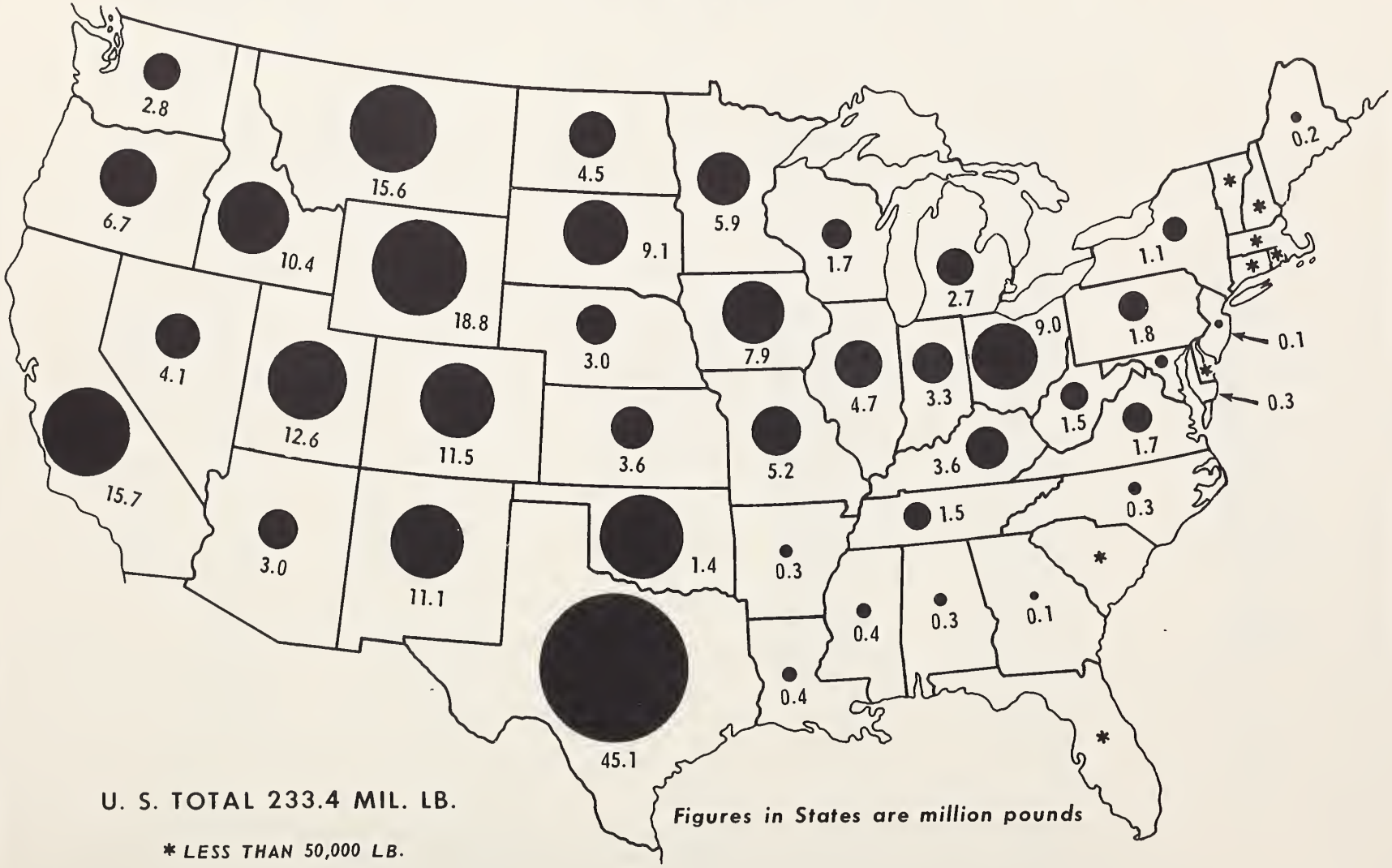
Year	Goats clipped 2/	Average clip per goat	Production	Price per pound	Value of sales
	Thousands	Pounds	Thousand pounds	Cents	Thousand dollars
1940	4,297	4.9	21,144	49.7	10,504
1941	4,542	4.8	21,766	56.9	12,389
1942	4,322	4.8	20,676	49.3	10,203
1943	4,276	4.7	20,156	57.1	11,518
1944	4,109	5.0	20,443	60.1	12,295
1945	4,291	5.1	22,008	55.3	12,180
1946	3,939	4.9	19,282	61.1	11,783
1947	3,672	5.0	18,225	53.6	9,772
1948	3,164	5.1	15,972	45.4	7,251
1949	2,558	5.1	12,959	46.3	6,001
1950	2,530	5.2	13,245	76.0	10,062
1951	2,472	5.2	12,892	118.0	15,187
1952	2,287	5.3	12,215	96.3	11,763
1953	2,337	5.5	12,757	87.7	11,187
1954	2,618	5.6	14,578	72.4	10,549
1955 3/	2,983	5.7	16,923	82.2	13,912

1/ Arizona, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah. A small quantity of mohair is produced in other States but no estimate is made of the quantity.

2/ In States where goats are clipped twice a year the number clipped is the sum of goats and kids clipped in the spring and kids clipped in the fall.

3/ Preliminary.

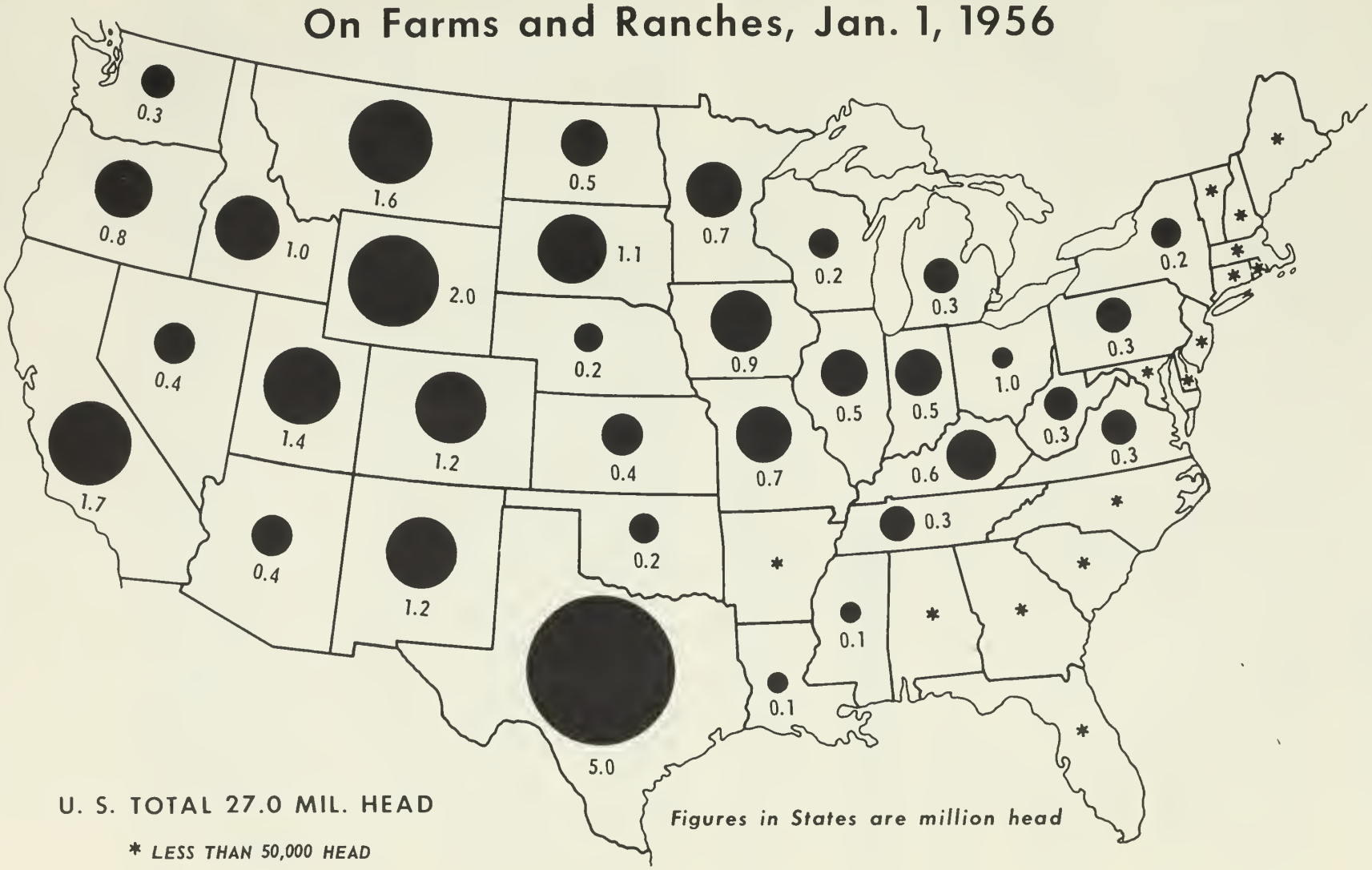
SHORN WOOL PRODUCTION, 1955



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 4069-56(4) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

STOCK SHEEP AND LAMBS

On Farms and Ranches, Jan. 1, 1956



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 4070-56(4) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

CCC Wool Sales Drop Off

Through March, the Commodity Credit Corporation sold approximately 26.9 million pounds, actual weight, of wool under the competitive bid sales program which went into effect last November 1. Under this program, a maximum of $6\frac{1}{4}$ million pounds per month can be sold for domestic use at or above prices established by CCC. The full quota was sold during each of the first 4 months of the program. March sales, however, amounted to just under one-third of the quota.

The monthly sales limitation does not apply to sales made at (1) 103 percent of 1954 loan rates plus sales commissions or (2) wool sold or bartered for export. Between November 1, 1955, and March 31, 1956, sales not subject to the monthly limitation came to nearly a million pounds.

By the end of March, CCC holdings were about 121.6 million pounds compared with about 149.4 million pounds when the new selling program went into effect.

1955-56 Exports from Southern Hemisphere Up From 1954-55

Total exports from the 5 major surplus-producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, and Uruguay, during the early part of the 1955-56 selling seasons in those countries were somewhat larger than a year earlier.

The July-January total for Australia was 16 percent above early 1954-55, when a dock strike delayed shipments (table 5). Then, too, indications are that the current clip is about 10 percent larger than the previous one. More than three times as much wool was exported from Uruguay during October-January, the first four months of the 1955-56 season in that country, as during the same months of 1954-55. A sizable quantity of 1954-55 wool was carried over into the current season. A government payment on exports of raw wool became effective last September 15. Exports from the Union of South Africa during the first half of the season were about one-tenth above 1954-55.

The quantities exported from both New Zealand and Argentina were a little lower than during the previous season. The Argentine "aforo" scheme, designed to encourage exports of agricultural products by liberalizing exchange rates, became effective for wool on December 19.

Imports of Dutiable Wool Up From Early 1955

During January U. S. imports of dutiable wool for consumption came to 18.6 million pounds, actual weight, or 12.3 million pounds, clean content. The clean content total was about 10 percent above that of January 1955.

Table 5.- Exports of wool, actual weight, from Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries, 1953-54, 1954-55 and 1955-56 seasons through January 1/

Exporting country	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Australia	630	560	650
New Zealand 2/	129	129	118
Union of South Africa 2/	111	115	127
Argentina 3/	12	22	18
Uruguay	21	20	72

1/ Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa, and season beginning October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.
2/ Through December.
3/ Through November.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Total imports for 1955 amounted to 169 million pounds, actual weight, or 113 million pounds, clean content. Although this was about 9 million pounds, clean content or 8 percent above 1954, it was, except for 1954, the smallest annual total imported since before World War II.

Over 96 percent of last year's total consisted of wools which originated in the 5 major surplus-producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere (table 6). Australia alone accounted for 47 percent of the total compared with 41 percent in 1954. The Union of South Africa, with 14.9 percent of the total, ranked second as a supplier. 60's and finer wools accounted for 65.3 million pounds, clean content, or about 58 percent of the total, a slightly larger proportion than in 1954.

Imports of Duty-free Wool Up Sharply

United States imports of duty-free wool for consumption during January totaled 24.0 million pounds, actual weight, or 16.9 million pounds, clean content. This was more than double the quantity for January 1955.

Table 6.- Percentage distribution of United States imports of wool by country of origin, 1953-55

Country	Duty-free			Dutiable			Total		
	1953	1954	1955	1953	1954	1955	1953	1954	1955
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Australia	0.1	1/	0.2	28.0	41.0	47.0	15.8	20.7	21.4
New Zealand	9.1	9.3	8.3	13.8	15.6	13.3	11.7	12.5	10.6
Union of South Africa	.8	1.1	.9	6.7	13.6	14.9	4.1	7.4	7.3
Argentina	47.3	44.3	42.5	29.7	14.0	10.5	37.4	29.0	28.0
Uruguay	.1	1/	1/	17.4	11.3	10.5	9.8	5.7	4.8
Other countries	42.6	45.3	48.1	4.4	4.5	3.8	21.2	24.7	27.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Less than 0.05 percent.

Derived from reports of U. S. Department of Commerce.

The total for 1955 was 186 million pounds, actual weight, or 136 million pounds, clean content. The clean content total was one-third above that for 1954 and the largest since 1950. It consisted of 75 million pounds, clean, of "named" wools and 61 million pounds of other wools not finer than 40's. Of the 5 surplus-producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere, only Argentina and New Zealand produce such wool in quantity. Argentina alone accounted for 42.5 percent of our total imports (table 6). India, Pakistan, and countries of the Near East are the other major suppliers.

World Consumption Increased Last Year

The Commonwealth Economic Committee estimates that world consumption of wool during 1955 totaled about 2,580 million pounds, clean basis (table 7). This is about 3 percent above the quantity consumed in 1954. It was the same as the CEC estimate of world production during 1954-55 but almost 100 million pounds, clean, less than their forecast of production during 1955-56. Much of the increase in world consumption resulted from the gain in the United States following the lower level of prices.

Consumption in 11 of the major consuming countries--Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom, and United States--which furnish the CEC with estimates was 4 percent above the 1954 aggregate for those countries. Changes from a year earlier varied considerably, with most countries showing increases. Germany and the United States were among the countries with the largest increases. Consumption in France and Italy declined 4 and 6 percent.

The estimate for the rest of the world, based on available supplies or wool textile production, is about 2 percent above that for 1954. About half of the estimate of 860 million pounds for these countries is accounted for by the estimate of aggregate consumption in the U.S.S.R., Eastern Europe, and China.

Table 7.- Estimated world production and consumption of wool, clean basis, 1948-56

Item	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Production 1/	2,135	2,185	2,253	2,329	2,354	2,526	2,540	2/2,579	3/2,670
Consumption	2,574	2,449	2,681	2,277	2,359	2,631	2,502	2/2,580	

1/ Production during the season beginning July 1 of the previous calendar year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Forecast.
Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Consumption of other materials by the wool textile industries of the major wool consuming countries last year is estimated to have been about 8 percent above the year before. Such materials are estimated to have accounted for 41.5 percent of the total quantity of fiber used compared with 40.5 percent in 1954 and 37 percent in 1953.

Domestic Mills Used More Apparel Wool Early This Year

Woolen and worsted mills used 51 million pounds, scoured basis, of apparel wool during the first two months of this year. The average weekly rate of consumption during January-February was 15 percent above that of 1955 (table 8). The increase in the use of wool on the worsted system was somewhat greater than that on the woolen system. The percentage change for 60's and finer wool was a little smaller than that for wools coarser than 60's.

Table 8.- Weekly rate of consumption of apparel and carpet wool on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, United States, by months, 1950-56

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1950												
Apparel	8,006	8,837	8,518	7,943	8,268	8,084	7,370	9,901	9,015	9,671	7,871	7,393
Carpet	3,974	3,977	3,989	4,208	4,097	3,725	2,448	3,989	3,710	4,223	3,712	3,638
Total	11,980	12,814	12,507	12,151	12,365	11,809	9,818	13,890	12,725	13,894	11,583	11,031
1951												
Apparel	8,192	7,496	7,020	8,754	8,609	8,541	6,282	7,320	6,912	6,360	6,368	6,300
Carpet	3,416	3,410	3,268	2,507	1,807	1,622	413	1,040	1,069	1,556	1,663	1,761
Total	11,608	10,906	10,288	11,261	10,416	10,163	6,695	8,360	7,981	7,916	8,031	8,061
1952												
Apparel	5,904	6,218	5,971	5,876	6,277	6,779	6,335	7,621	7,784	7,656	7,120	6,725
Carpet	2,261	2,513	2,385	2,265	2,033	1,403	1,289	2,305	2,730	2,648	2,824	3,029
Total	8,165	8,731	8,356	8,141	8,310	8,182	7,624	9,926	10,514	10,304	9,944	9,754
1953												
Apparel	7,033	7,599	7,704	7,472	8,075	8,034	6,526	7,649	7,083	5,986	4,717	4,118
Carpet	2,869	3,238	3,295	2,929	2,450	2,622	1,490	2,677	2,503	2,358	2,258	2,137
Total	9,902	10,837	10,999	10,401	10,525	10,656	8,016	10,326	9,586	8,344	6,975	6,255
1954												
Apparel	4,652	4,916	4,894	5,476	5,851	5,570	5,271	5,926	4,881	4,962	4,685	4,520
Carpet	2,514	2,500	2,389	2,346	2,093	1,793	1,370	2,296	2,300	2,365	2,274	2,214
Total	7,166	7,416	7,283	7,822	7,944	7,363	6,641	8,222	7,181	7,327	6,959	6,734
1955												
Apparel	5,333	5,699	5,424	5,681	5,874	5,408	5,171	5,786	5,179	5,747	5,661	5,201
Carpet	2,546	2,539	2,535	2,554	2,584	2,252	1,659	2,627	2,649	2,973	2,891	2,773
Total	7,879	8,238	7,959	8,235	8,458	7,660	6,830	8,413	7,828	8,720	8,552	7,974
1956												
Apparel	6,239	6,420										
Carpet	3,213	3,419										
Total	9,452	9,839										

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 9.- Percentage distribution of fibers consumed for spinning of carpet and rug yarns on the woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-56

Fiber	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep													
1950	80.3	80.3	81.2	81.6	81.6	79.1	75.5	78.4	78.5	76.8	74.7	74.2	79.2
1951	73.9	71.4	72.5	63.0	54.6	52.0	38.7	56.2	57.4	65.5	64.5	69.8	64.5
1952	71.1	73.8	72.0	72.4	70.9	74.5	75.1	78.5	75.2	74.2	75.5	73.9	73.8
1953	73.6	73.4	73.4	74.9	73.0	74.0	74.7	77.7	75.8	74.3	75.5	75.3	74.6
1954	72.8	74.8	76.1	74.9	74.2	71.5	69.7	71.3	73.2	69.7	71.7	71.7	72.8
1955	67.6	67.7	67.4	68.8	72.8	68.8	69.5	70.5	72.2	71.1	71.1	73.4	70.1
1956	74.1	74.6											
Other wool 1/													
1950	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.1	4.6	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.7	3.4
1951	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.0	3.7	3.0
1952	2.7	2.1	3.2	3.8	4.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.5
1953	4.0	5.5	5.0	5.3	4.3	6.6	4.8	4.9	4.7	5.8	5.2	5.7	5.1
1954	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.0	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.1
1955	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.3	1.7	1.9	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.9
1956	1.7	1.7											
Reused and reprocessed wool 1/													
1950	10.8	9.2	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.1	11.5	8.7	9.8	9.7	10.2	8.7	9.7
1951	9.2	9.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	8.5	13.1	5.0	8.5	6.8	7.3	5.8	8.5
1952	6.8	5.9	4.7	4.8	5.9	8.4	10.4	6.2	5.9	5.6	4.4	4.6	5.9
1953	5.4	4.0	5.0	4.8	5.9	4.8	7.1	4.1	5.0	4.4	7.7	4.4	5.1
1954	7.4	7.5	8.3	6.8	7.4	9.1	7.9	8.9	9.1	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.0
1955	8.7	8.2	9.5	7.5	5.9	6.0	6.6	5.9	7.4	7.7	7.4	7.9	7.4
1956	6.7	6.8											
Man-made fiber 2/													
1950	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.4	3.8	4.5	5.5	5.7	5.8	7.2	9.4	12.3	5.6
1951	11.7	13.8	13.4	22.0	29.4	31.9	37.1	31.4	27.7	21.5	22.3	17.5	20.8
1952	17.4	15.8	18.6	17.6	17.2	12.2	9.6	11.5	13.2	14.2	14.0	16.1	15.1
1953	15.3	16.0	15.6	14.0	15.7	13.7	12.7	11.9	13.4	14.5	10.7	13.5	14.1
1954	16.8	14.8	12.5	14.9	15.3	16.6	19.1	17.3	15.3	18.2	17.4	17.4	16.2
1955	21.4	21.7	20.6	20.7	18.4	22.0	19.4	20.4	16.6	17.5	18.0	15.9	19.3
1956	17.0	16.2											
Other fiber 2/													
1950	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.5	4.4	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.1	2.1
1951	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	4.0	7.4	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.2
1952	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.7
1953	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	.9	.7	1.4	1.1	1.0	.9	1.1	1.1
1954	.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	.8	.6	.3	.8	.3	1.9	1.0	.8	.9
1955	.8	.8	.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	2.2	1.5	1.9	2.0	1.5	.9	1.3
1956	.5	.7											

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939.
2/ Prior to January 1953, synthetics other than rayon and acetate were included with "other fibers".

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 10.- Woolen and worsted fabric production in the United States, 1952-55 1/

Fabric	1952 (52 weeks)	1953 (53 weeks)	1954 2/ (52 weeks)	1955 2/ (52 weeks)	Percentage change in weekly average rate - 1955 from 1953	Percentage change in weekly average rate - 1955 from 1954
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	Percent	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	351,359	337,911	278,988	310,570	-6.3	+11.3
Apparel	307,951	290,652	256,439	295,510	+3.6	+15.2
Government orders	63,658	19,538	2,444	6,455	-66.3	+164.0
Other than Government orders	244,293	271,114	253,995	289,055	+8.7	+13.8
Men's and boys'	108,734	130,624	3/119,671	3/140,088	+9.3	+17.1
Woolen	50,196	57,494	50,844	67,956	+20.5	+33.6
Worsted	58,538	73,130	62,114	64,798	-9.7	+4.3
Women's and children's	135,559	140,490	3/134,324	3/148,967	+8.1	+10.9
Woolen	115,317	117,310	107,955	121,189	+5.3	+12.3
Worsted	20,242	23,180	16,160	14,677	-35.5	-9.2
Non-apparel	43,408	47,259	22,549	15,060	-67.5	-33.2
Blanketing	24,334	28,690	13,304	10,584	-62.4	-20.4
Government orders	8,599	8,092	4/	567	-92.9	---
Other than Government orders	15,735	20,598	4/	10,017	-50.4	---
Other non-apparel	19,074	18,569	9,245	4,476	-75.4	-51.6
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent
Woven felt	8,481	10,091	9,866	10,977	+10.9	+11.3

1/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available. 4/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Use of apparel wool on the two systems during 1955 amounted to 286 million pounds. Although this was about 20 million pounds or 7 percent above that of 1954, it was, except for that of 1954, the lowest since before World War II. Practically all of the gain last year relative to 1954 was on the woolen system. Woolen and worsted mills also used 18 percent more other fiber last year.

Domestic Mills Also Used More Carpet Wool Early This Year

Domestic woolen mills used 26 million pounds, scoured basis, of wool in the spinning of carpet and rug yarns during January-February of this year. Consumption during these two months was at an average weekly rate which was 30 percent above that of early 1955. February was the seventeenth consecutive month during which the rate was above a year earlier (table 8). At the same time the rate of use of other materials on the woolen system was somewhat lower than a year earlier (table 9).

Consumption of carpet wool during 1955 is estimated at 133 million pounds, about 16 percent more than was used during 1954. The use of other fiber by woolen mills in the spinning of carpet and rug yarns was up 32 percent.

Table 11.- Woolen and worsted fabric production in United States during 1955 as percent of 1954

Fabric	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	117.8	121.3	104.7	103.0
Apparel	127.2	126.3	106.9	103.9
Government orders	123.7	485.8	313.1	219.3
Other than Government orders	127.2	123.0	105.5	103.1
Men's and boys'	137.6	125.9	113.1	97.0
Woolen	184.2	137.9	130.9	101.4
Worsted	110.9	119.3	98.6	90.4
Women's and children's	117.2	120.5	100.1	109.1
Woolen	122.2	123.3	100.4	107.9
Worsted	85.8	86.9	84.2	106.4
Non-apparel	53.1	67.5	69.8	87.5
Blanketing	63.2	88.7	71.6	105.3
Government orders	18.6	1/	1/	1/
Other than Government orders	73.1	1/	1/	1/
Other non-apparel	40.2	39.5	66.3	62.3
Woven felt	104.7	109.8	113.8	117.4

1/ Not available.
Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

More Woolen and Worsted Fabric Produced Last Year

United States mills produced roughly 311 million finished linear yards of woolen and worsted woven fabric (fabric containing by weight 50 percent or more wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool) last year (table 10). The total represented an increase of 11 percent from the quantity woven in 1954.

Production of apparel fabric last year totaled 296 million yards, 15 percent above 1954. Output of men's and boys' wear fabric was up 17 percent and of women's and children's wear was up 11 percent.

Production was above a year earlier each quarter (table 11). The ratio to a year earlier was greatest for the second quarter when output was 21 percent above a year earlier. The rate for the final quarter was 3 percent above that of the final quarter of 1954.

In addition to the apparel fabric, 15 million linear yards of non-apparel fabric were woven. The quantity produced was about one-third less than that of 1954, with about one-fifth less blanketing and less than half as much other non-apparel fabrics.

Woolen and worsted mills also produced 11 million pounds of woven felt last year. The 1954 total was 10 million pounds.

Early 1956 Cuttings of Men's Tailored Clothing Show Mixed Trends

During January-February, 25 percent more summer-weight suits and 3 percent more separate dress and sport trousers were cut than a year earlier (table 12). However, cuttings of regular-weight suits and overcoats and topcoats were 10 and 4 percent, respectively, below a year earlier.

For the two categories, summer-weight suits and separate dress and sport trousers, for which information as to fiber content is available, cuttings from wool declined or increased less than cuttings from other fabric (table 13). Cuttings of separate dress and sport trousers from wool fabric were 11 percent below a year earlier while cuttings from other fabrics were up 10 percent. Wool accounted for about 29 percent of the total compared with 33 percent a year earlier. Although 21 percent more wool summer-weight suits were cut, cuttings from other fiber were up 28 percent. Wool accounted for 41 percent of total cuttings as against 42 percent a year earlier.

Output of Most Items of Women's Outerwear Up From Early 1955

During January-February, 14 percent more coats, 1 percent more suits, 15 percent more unit-priced dresses, and 1 percent more skirts were cut than a year earlier. However, 14 percent fewer blouses were cut (table 14). For those items for which information as to fiber content is available, cuttings from rayon and acetate declined or increased less than cuttings from other fiber (table 15).

Table 12.- Cuttings of specified items of men's tailored clothing, United States, January-February 1954-56

Type of garment	Number of garments cut			Percentage change 1956 from	
	1954 (8 weeks)	1955 (8 weeks)	1956 (8 weeks)	1954	1955
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Pct.	Pct.
Suits, total	3,576	3,664	3,736	+4.5	+2.0
Regular-weight	2,060	2,388	2,144	+4.1	-10.2
Summer-weight	1,516	1,276	1,592	+5.0	+24.8
50 percent or more wool	636	540	652	+2.5	+20.7
Man-made fibers	836	676	860	+2.9	+27.2
Other	44	60	80	+81.8	+33.3
Separate dress and sport trousers	9,984	10,656	10,944	+9.6	+2.7
50 percent or more wool	2,976	3,552	3,168	+6.5	-10.8
Other	7,008	7,104	7,776	+11.0	+9.5
Overcoats and topcoats	532	584	560	+5.3	-4.1

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 13.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of men's tailored clothing by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-February 1953-56

Type of garment	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Suits				
Regular-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	91.1	---	---	---
Other	8.9	---	---	---
Summer-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	30.3	42.0	42.3	41.0
Man-made fibers	66.4	55.1	53.0	54.0
Other	3.3	2.9	4.7	5.0
Separate dress and sport trousers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	30.0	29.8	33.3	28.9
Other	70.0	70.2	66.7	71.1

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 14.- Cuttings of specified items of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-February 1955-56

Type of garment	1955	1956	Percentage change 1956 from 1955
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Dresses (unit-priced)	21,946	25,323	+15.4
Rayon and acetate	11,815	13,313	+12.7
Other	10,131	12,010	+18.5
Skirts	13,788	13,944	+1.1
Rayon and acetate	5,352	3,756	-29.8
Other	8,436	10,188	+20.8
Suits	3,529	3,579	+1.4
Rayon and acetate	1,688	1,464	-13.3
Other	1,841	2,115	+14.9
Coats	4,297	4,905	+14.1
Blouses	30,444	26,136	-14.2
Cotton	18,540	15,744	-15.1
Other	11,904	10,392	-12.7

Compiled from Facts for Industry Series M67H, Bureau of the Census.

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Table 15.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of women's, misses' and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-February 1955-56

Type of garment	1955	1956
	Percent	Percent
Dresses (unit-priced)	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	53.8	52.6
Other	46.2	47.4
Skirts	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	38.8	26.9
Other	61.2	73.1
Suits	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	47.8	40.9
Other	52.2	59.1
Blouses	100.0	100.0
Cotton	60.9	60.2
Other	39.1	39.8

Derived from Facts for Industry Series M67H, Bureau of the Census.

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